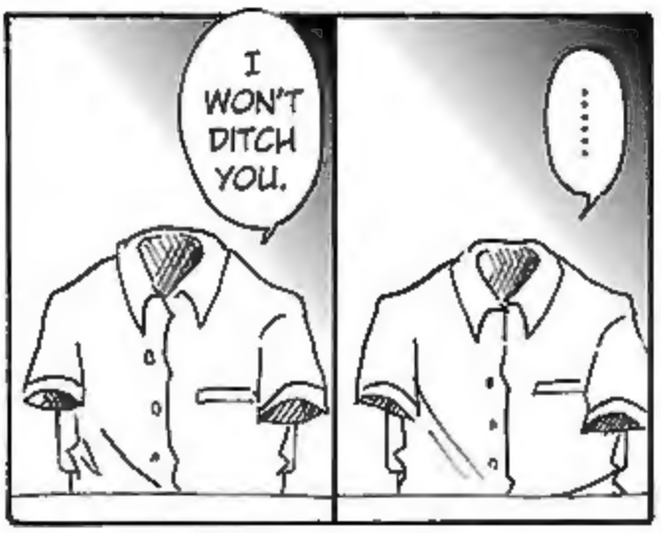
Chapter 6: The Fox and the Chameleon

THIS IS A WORLD WHERE CARNIVORES AND HERBIVORES COEXIST WITH EACH OTHER.

HERBIVORE PREDATION IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.
A PUMA GOVERNMENT WORKER ATE AN EWE ALIVE...
YEAH, I SAW IT! IT'S THE FIFTH THIS YEAR.
DID YOU SEE THE NEWS?! THERE WAS ANOTHER PREDATION INCIDENT.
THE PRESSURE OF THIS KNOWLEDGE
AAH, BEAN OMELETTES AGAIN...
BEANS HAVE GOT TO BE THE WORST SOURCE OF PROTEIN.
HAS STABILIZED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HERBIVORE AND CARNIVORE.
HEY, WHAT DOES TOMORROW'S TEST GO OVER?
UP TO PAGE 20. ALSO, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE ME MY GAME?
MILK
SOY

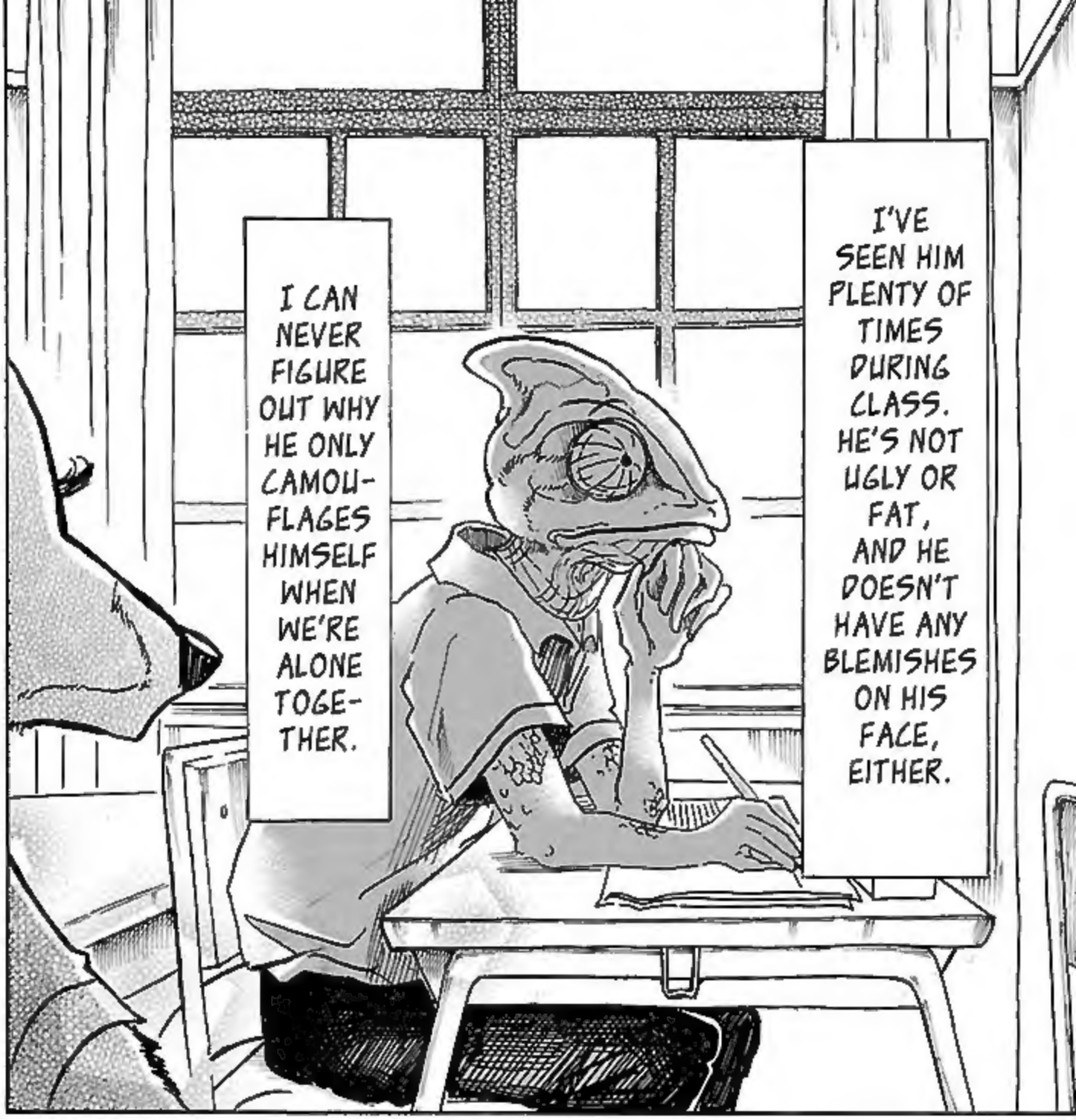
I'VE CONCLUDED THAT PAPER DUTY IS A FORM OF BAD LUCK.
HMM... YOU KNOW, AFTER SOME THINKING,

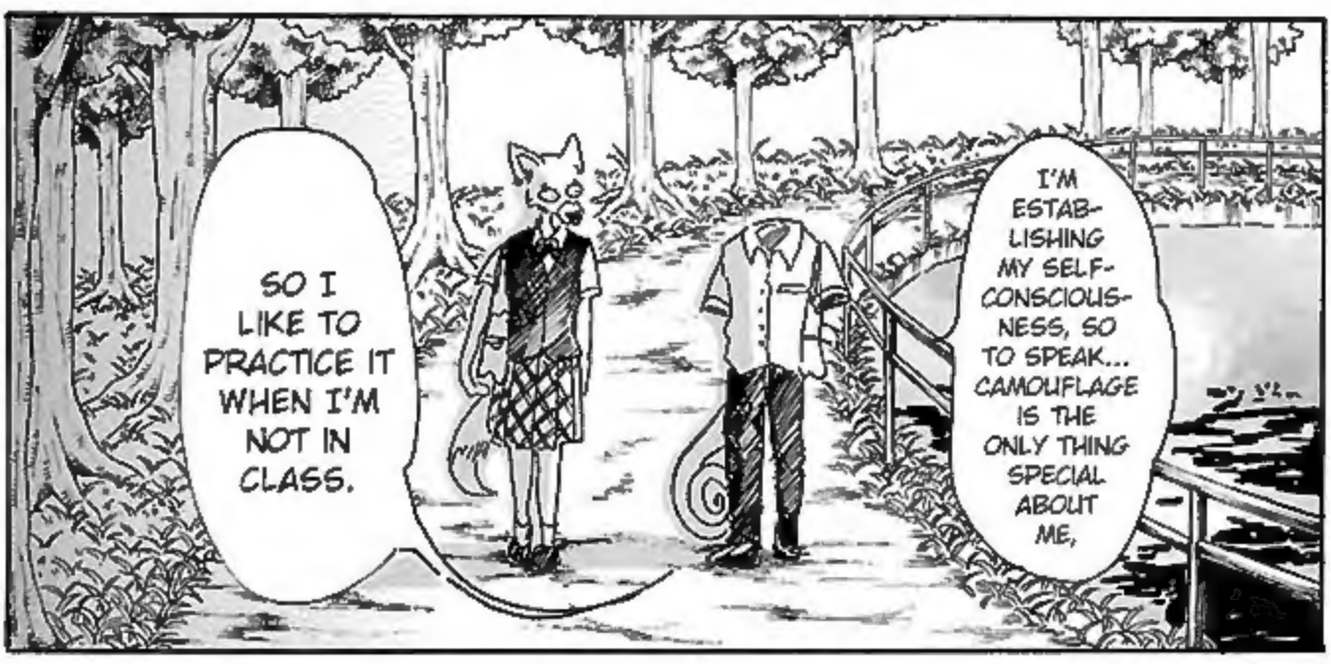
IT TOOK ME A WHOLE MONTH TO REALIZE THAT SORTING PAPERS BY SPECIES IS QUITE TIME-CONSUMING.
THIS BELONGS TO THE BIRD PILE.
YEAH, EVEN IF IT'S JUST ONCE A WEEK.
...YOU THINK SO?


I WON'T DITCH YOU.
.....

DON'T YOU START DITCHING ME, NOW.
NOT THAT YOU WOULD, ANYWAY.

HE'S ALWAYS INVISIBLE WHENEVER I TALK TO HIM.
GOOD.


I'VE SEEN HIM PLENTY OF TIMES DURING CLASS. HE'S NOT UGLY OR FAT, AND HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY BLEMISHES ON HIS FACE, EITHER.
I CAN NEVER FIGURE OUT WHY HE ONLY CAMOU-FLAGES HIMSELF WHEN WE'RE ALONE TOGE-THER.

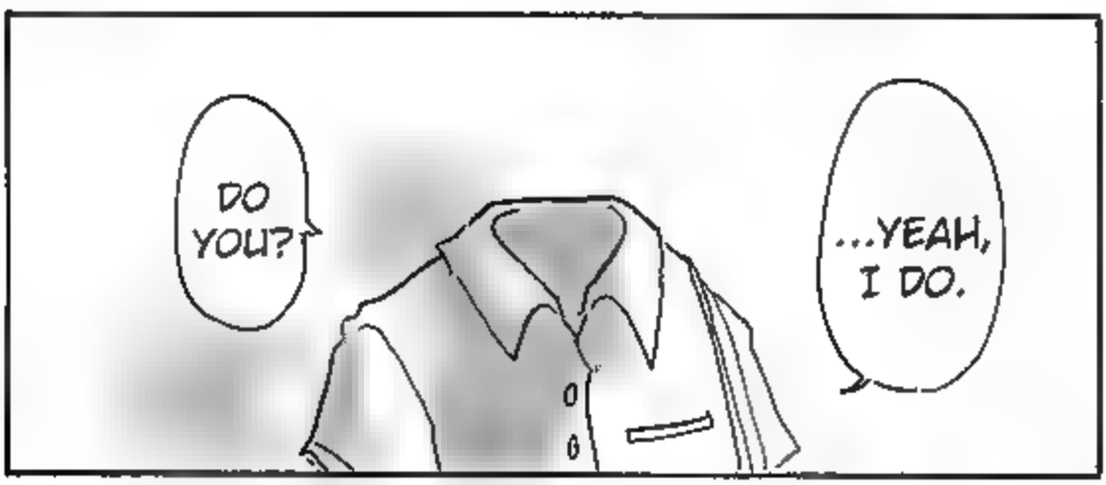

I'M ESTAB-LISHING MY SELF-CONSCIOUS-NESS, SO TO SPEAK... CAMOUFLAGE IS THE ONLY THING SPECIAL ABOUT ME,
SO I LIKE TO PRACTICE IT WHEN I'M NOT IN CLASS.

BECAUSE THE TEACHERS CAN'T CALL ON ME IF THEY CAN'T SEE ME.
WHY DON'T YOU CAMOU-FLAGE YOURSELF DURING CLASS?
I SEE...
I-I HAVE ANOTHER REASON WHY I CAMOUFLAGE MYSELF WHEN I'M AROUND YOU.
ALL RIGHT ...
SIMPLE ENOUGH.
EMBAR-ASSES ME...
THAT THOUGHT
YOU SEEING ME...

I'M SORRY.
YOU'RE SUCH A CREEP.
WOW.
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.
THEN YOU'RE NOT GONNA GET THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL, OR UNIVERSITY, OR EVEN SOCIETY FOR THAT MATTER.
YOU'RE GONNA BE IN HIGH SCHOOL NEXT YEAR, RIGHT? IF YOU'RE THIS SHY IN YOUR LAST YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL,

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU GET TO HIDE IN YOUR BUBBLE FOR-EVER!
I'M THE ONE WHO'S SHY.
I'M JUST TEAS-ING.
LET ME SEE YOU.

SORRY
DON'T DO THAT ...!! YOU SCARED ME.
OH! TOUCHING YOU DOES WEAR OFF YOUR CAMOU-FLAGE.
HEH HEH HEH... THAT'S HILARIOUS. HEY.
HM?
DO YOU LIKE SCHOOL?


DO YOU?
...YEAH, I DO.

I WONDER IF HE KNOWS.
SOME-TIMES I THINK EVERYONE IN SCHOOL SHOULD DIE.
HELL NO.

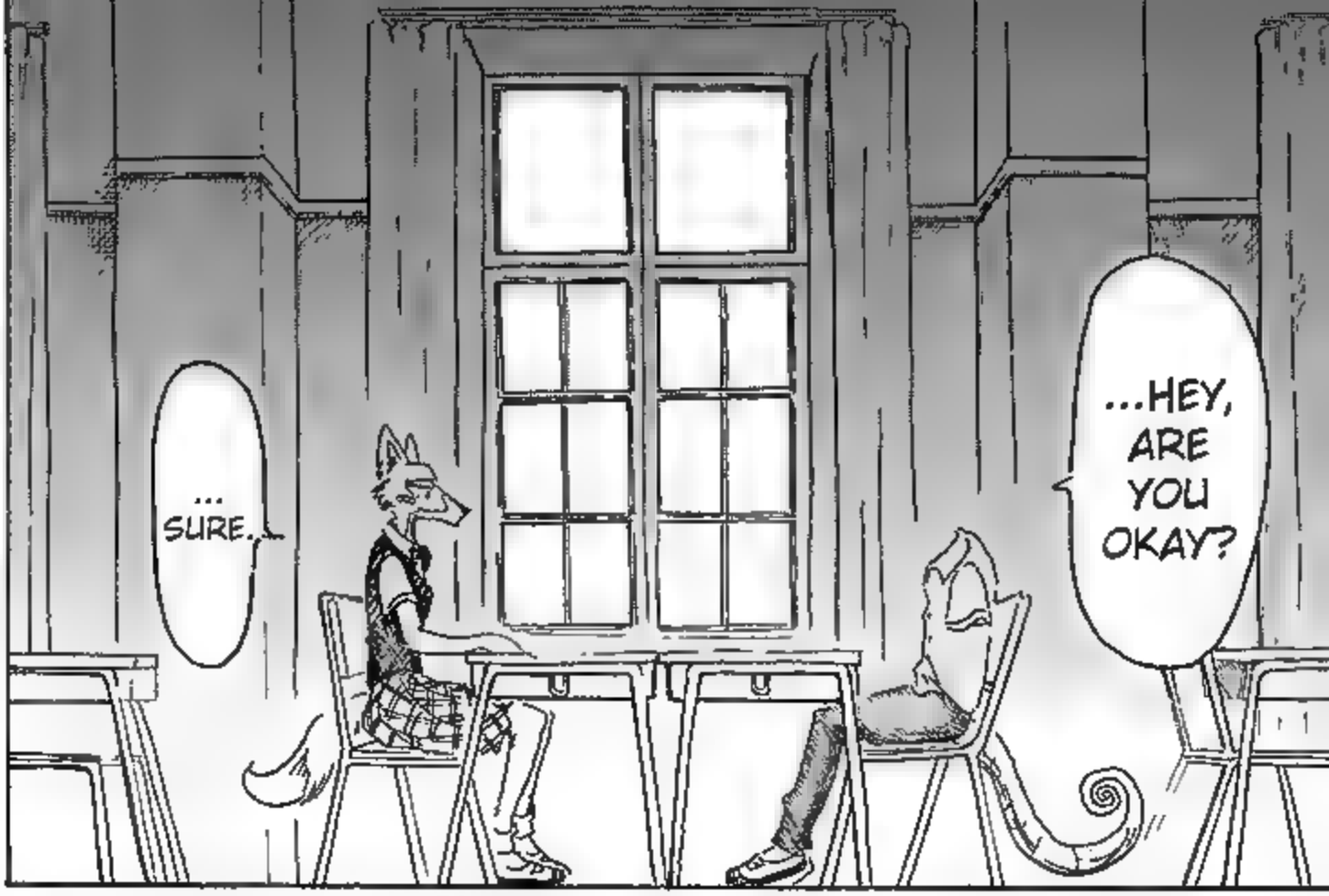
ド"ン
WHY I DON'T ENJOY BEING IN SCHOOL.
I'VE BEEN SUBJECT TO BULLYING, GOD KNOWS WHEN,
BY THE FOX CLIQUE.

IN THAT CASE,
キャハハ
HEY, ARE YOU GOING SOME-WHERE?
SCREW TH.S
ガタ.
1
OH, AND BE SURE TO WIPE THE CONDEN-SATION OFF TO BOTTLES, OKAY?
I WANT CIDER!
THAT'S ONE FOR EACH OF US.
GET US SOME GRAPE JUICE FROM THE VENDING MACHINE DOWNSTAIRS.
キャッキャッ
Thanks, lil' red fox♡

IF YOU WANT TO PROVE YOUR DOMI-NANCE SO BAD,
THEN GO ASK THE LIONESS CLIQUE TO GET YOUR DRINKS.
W-WAIT, NO, I DIDN'T SAY ANY-THING!
IT WAS HER ...!!
WHAT'D YOU SAY ABOUT US?
HUH?
HEY, WAIT !!

UGH!
I SAID WAIT!!
LET GO!
UH OH!
!
SOME-ONE GET A TEACH-ER!!
WHY IS SHE SO DES-PAR-ATE?
WHAT'S WRONG W.TH HER?
CRAP
UGH, THIS IS SUCH
SAY THAT AGAIN, YOU UGLY BITCH!!
DON'T SCREW WITH ME!!

AND I'M ONLY BEING BULLIED BECAUSE I'M DIFFERENT...
I HATE THE VANITY OF CARNIVORES ...!! IT'S SO POINTLESS AND STUPID.
THIS WORLD IS HELL.


...
SURE.
...HEY, ARE YOU OKAY?

THOSE GIRLS ARE AWFUL.
IT MUST'VE HURT, BEING PUSHED TO THE FLOOR...

THEY LIVE BY PERPE-TUATING THE STEREO-TYPE.
WELL, YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY... "ALL FOXES ARE SHORT-TEMPERED NE'ER-DO-WELLS."

... HEY...
SO WHEN THEY SEE A FOX WHO DOESN'T CARE, THEY HAVE TO GET RID OF HER.
I KNOW YOU LIKE ME.
WHY DIDN'T YOU SAVE ME?

IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE YOU "ESTABLISHING YOUR SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS"?
YOU SPEND MOST OF YOUR EVERYDAY LIFE BEING INVISIBLE...
YOU CAMOUFLAGE YOURSELF...
...YOU'RE SUCH A CHAMELEON.
YOU KNOW WHAT, WHY DON'T I JUST TURN DELINQUENT? WHY DON'T I JUST START SMOKING AND DRINKING AND HAVING A BOYFRIEND OR TWO?
WAIT.
YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT.

WELL, MAYBE I'D MAKE EVERYONE HAPPY IF I DID!
ガタ
MAYBE I'D EVEN ENJOY IT!
HERE'S HALF THE PAPERS.
BUT I'M TIRED OF STEREO-TYPING AND BEING STEREO-TYPED! I AM WHO I AM!
WAIT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?
ガチャ
I'M GIVING MY CLASSMATES AND MYSELF
A TASTE OF FREEDOM!

TO ALL HERBIVORE STUDENTS
【information about the trip】
TO ALL BIRD STUDENTS
TO ALL CARNIVORE STUDENTS
TO ALL REPTILE STUDENTS
TO ALL CARNIVORE STUDENTS
【information about the trip】

HOOO!! MY DAY WAS TOTAL HELL BUT NOW I FEEL GREAT.
YOU'RE GONNA GET IN TROU-BLE!!
AAAAH!! THOSE WERE EVERY-ONE'S PAPERS ...!!
IT'LL BE FINE!! I'LL TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY AND LET THE TEACHERS LECTURE ME. GO DO YOUR USUAL THING AND CAMOUFLAGE YOURSELF.
YOU SEEM TO ENJOY THE FACT THAT YOU WERE BORN A CHAMELEON.
I DON'T HATE YOU. IN FACT, I LIKE YOU.

I THINK YOU'RE GREAT THE WAY YOU ARE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU...? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT ME?
ガラガラ
HEH HEH... ACTUALLY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME. SEE YA.

HEY, YOU.
WE NEED TO TALK.

!!
...HM? I'VE NEVER SEEN MAKEUP LIKE THAT BEFORE. LOOKS GOOD.
YOU DID THIS TO US!
OW ...
THE LIONESS CLIQUE BEAT US UP BECAUSE OF THAT MISUNDER-STANDING YOU MADE, YOU BITCH!!
WE'RE GONNA TEACH YOU A LESSON ...
WE'RE GONNA TAKE YOU TO THE REAR EN-TRANCE !!
.....
IF YOU THINK YOU'RE HURTING NOW, YOU'VE SEEN NOTHING YET...!! WE'RE GONNA GET EVEN WITH YOU!

YOU'LL NEVER ...
FOR-
!?

HUH? WHAT WAS THAT?
.....
??

IT-
IT WAS ONE OF YOU, WASN'T IT!!
WHAT ?!
WE DIDN'T DO ANY-THING.
WE WERE JUST WATCH-ING YOU.

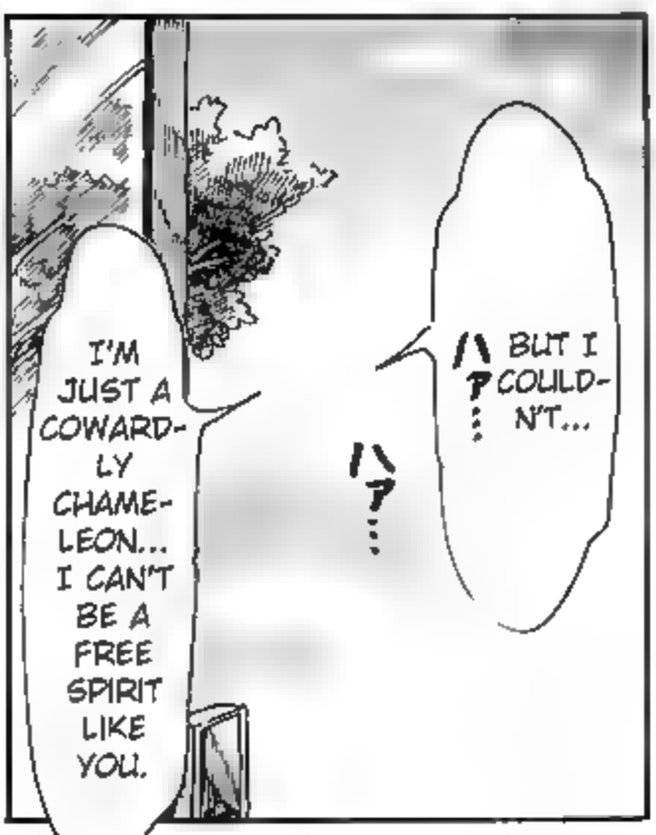
ドーッ
EEK ...!!

WHAT ...?
... WHA ...
クスクス

THAT'S CRAZY! CRAP... LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.
HUH? ...I DIDN'T SEE ANYONE!! WHAT THE HELL?! IS IT A POLTER-GEIST?!
MOVE !!
OH, HEY, WAIT ...!!
YOU CAN EVEN HIDE YOUR TAIL.
...YOU'RE A CAMOU-FLAGING MASTER.

IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER FOR ME TO BE VISIBLE, IF I'M GOING TO SAVE THE GIRL I LIKE...
ハア…
ハア…

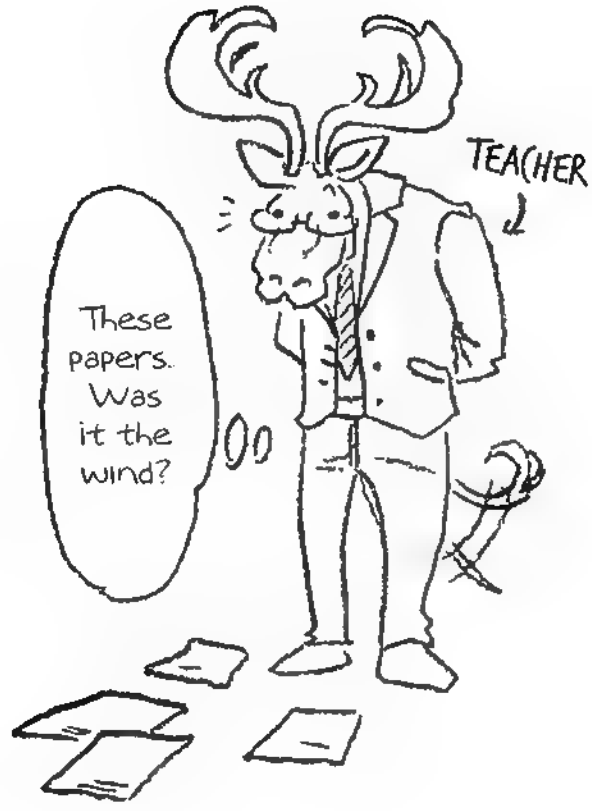
YOU'RE GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME.
YOU'RE COOL THE WAY YOU ARE.


ハア… BUT I COULDN'T...
ハア…
I'M JUST A COWARDLY CHAMELEON... I CAN'T BE A FREE SPIRIT LIKE YOU.

Oh, wait!! Don't touch me!
THANKS FOR SAVING ME.
HUH?
I TOOK IT OFF... I'M NAKED RIGHT NOW.
I-I DIDN'T CAMOU-FLAGE MY UNIFORM ...
Pfft
Really?! Where are you? Let me touch you!
WAIT! NO!! STAY BACK!!

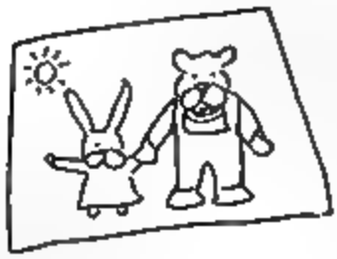
HOT CHOCOLATE SCANS

TRANSLATOR: GDAFF
PROOFREADER: OMEGA765
CLEANER: PSEUDOLOGUE
REDRAWER: PSEUDOLOGUE
TYPESETTER: OMEGA765
QC: GDAFF



(Sorry if this is hard to read.)

I have been drawing animals since I was little.



So when I was drawing my own animal drawings,

I decided to have some fun making unique plots.

This bear and rabbit are living in the same condo. For them to have a neighborly relationship they first need to be friends.

Several decades later (sudden time skip)

There was a time when I was watching cartoons in my elementary school class the cartoons consisting of a dog walking a dog and a bird eating bird meat and some of the classmates would say

I made these kinds of stories in the form of manga and sold them in my art university's art festival, which made my university life quite enjoyable.

I was doing this for fun and oh boy was it fun

I'd like to think that most people have acted this pretentious and contrarian at least once in their childhood. I wonder if those kids are elementary school teachers right now

I was having so much fun that I considered going pro even though I didn't have any stable income at the time.

(22 years old and job hunting with no success.)

※My vocabulary was not this advanced when I was in elementary school.

They're trying to show off their enlightening analysis skills By denouncing creative work

In any case, I hated that kind of stuff more than anything

Please read this comic according to this line arrow.

*TL Note: Iidabashi is a railway station in Tokyo.

Listening to Music While Writing My Stories

I have stopped listening to music while working on my ongoing series, but for my oneshots, listening to music has become such a habit that I associate the chapter I'm working on with a particular song, an image song. It makes working on the chapter more enriching and more fun too. The songs are associated according to their atmosphere rather than their lyrics.

1、*The Lion and the Bat*	**Teenage**	Sakanaction
2、*The Tiger and the Beaver*	Seishun Ikinokori Geemu	Spitz
3、*The Camel and the Wolf*	Shiawase na Ketsumatsu	Ootaki Eiichi
4、*The Kangaroo and the Black Panther*	**Kiken Sugiru**	Asai Ken'ichi
5、*The Crocodile and the Gazelle*	**OSKA**	Tokyo Jihen
6、*The Fox and the Chameleon*	**Creep**	Radiohead

♪ ♬ ♩ ♫ ♪ ♬ ♩ ♫ ♪ ♬ ♩ ♫ ♪ ♬ ♩ ♫ ♪ ♬ ♩ ♫ ♪ ♬ ♩

A Digression

After Beast Complex, a certain great castle from a certain great country made an animated movie about talking animals that got popular to rather utopian proportions, and soon after, behind the scenes, I had begun work on my long serial manga BEASTARS.

...Probably the most awkward time possible to start working on good ol' BEASTARS, but as of January 2018 I have up to six volumes released, so... keep supporting me, I guess.

(I worked on chapters 5 and 6 a while after I stared BEASTARS, hence the drastic art shift...)

The protagonist of BEASTARS, Legosi (17)

ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T HAVE TO CALL HOME?
SANTORI
MOLT